

CLAIMS

1. A foaming composition which is a cream for topical application, and which comprises, in an aqueous medium:

(1) a surfactant system such that at least one paracrystalline phase of direct and/or cubic hexagonal type appears when the temperature increases above 30 °C and such that said paracrystalline phase remains present up to at least 45 °C; and

(2) an active agent selected from the group consisting of anti-seborrhoeic active agents and antimicrobial agents.

2. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said paracrystalline phase comprises at least one direct hexagonal phase.

3. The composition according to Claim 1, which has a modulus $|G^*|$ ranging, at a temperature of 25 °C, from 10^2 to 10^5 Pa and a loss angle δ ranging from 10° to 45° for frequencies ranging from 10^{-2} to 10 Hz.

4. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system comprises at least one water-soluble surfactant and at least one water-insoluble surfactant.

5. The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said surfactant system comprises at least one water-soluble anionic surfactant.

6. The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said water-soluble anionic

surfactant is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids and salts thereof, ethoxylated carboxylic acids and salts thereof, sarcosinates and acyl sarcosinates and salts thereof, taurates and methyltaurates and salts thereof, isethionates and acyl isethionates and salts thereof, sulfosuccinates and salts thereof, alkyl sulfates and alkyl ether sulfates and salts thereof, monoalkyl and dialkyl esters of phosphoric acid and salts thereof, alkane sulfonates and salts thereof, bile salts, lipoamino acids and salts thereof, geminal surfactants, and mixtures thereof.

7. The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said water-soluble surfactant is an amphoteric or zwitterionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of betaines, sulfobetaines and alkylamphoacetates, and mixtures thereof.

8. The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said water-soluble surfactant is a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of polyol ethers, polyglyceryl ethers and esters, polyoxyethylenated fatty alcohols, alkyl-C₁-C₁₄-polyglucosides, alkyl glucopyranosides and alkylthioglycopyranosides, alkyl maltosides, alkyl-N-methylglucamides, polyoxyethylenated sorbitan esters, amino alcohol esters, and mixtures thereof.

9. The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said water-insoluble surfactant is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids and salts thereof; glyceryl esters and fatty acid esters; alkyl-C₁₅-C₃₀-polyglucosides; optionally oxyethylenated sterol and phytosterol derivatives; alkali metal salts of cholesteryl sulfate; alkali metal salts of cholesteryl phosphate; polyoxyethylenated fatty alcohols;

dialkyl phosphates; lecithins; sphingomyelins; ceramides, and mixtures thereof.

10. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system is present in an amount, of active material, ranging from 20 % to 65 % by weight, relative to the total weight of the composition.

11. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system comprises from 10 % to 50 % by weight of a water-soluble surfactant, relative to the total weight of the composition.

12. The composition according to Claim 11, wherein said surfactant system comprises at least 15 % by weight of a water-soluble surfactant, relative to the total weight of the composition.

13. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system comprises at least 10 % by weight of a water-soluble soap, relative to the total weight of the composition.

14. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system comprises from 5 % to 50 % by weight of a water-insoluble surfactant, relative to the total weight of the composition.

15. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said surfactant system comprises a total amount of soap of at least 20 % by weight, relative to the total

weight of the composition.

16. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said active agent is selected from the group consisting of oestrogens, cyproterone and its acetate, retinoids and aroretinoids, retinol and its derivatives, sulfur and sulfur-containing derivatives, benzoyl peroxide, zinc derivatives, aluminium chloride, selenium disulfide, B vitamins, β -lactam derivatives, quinolone derivatives, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, tetracycline and its salts, erythromycin and its salts, amikacin and its salts, triclosan, triclocarban, phenoxyethanol, phenoxypropanol, phenoxyisopropanol, doxycycline and its salts, capreomycin and its salts, chlorhexidine and its salts, chlorotetracycline and its salts, oxytetracycline and its salts, clindamycin and its salts, ethambutol and its salts, hexamidine and its salts, metronidazole and its salts, pentamidine and its salts, gentamycin and its salts, kanamycin and its salts, lineomycin and its salts, methacycline and its salts, methenamine and its salts, minocycline and its salts, neomycin and its salts, netilmicin and its salts, paromomycin and its salts, streptomycin and its salts, tobramycin and its salts, miconazole and its salts, amantadine and its salts, octopirox, para-chloro-meta-xyleneol, nystatin, tolnaftate, zinc pyrithione, clotrimazole, salicylic acid, 5-n-octanoylsalicylic acid, 3-hydroxybenzoic acid, glycolic acid, lactic acid, 4-hydroxybenzoic acid, acetylsalicylic acid, 2-hydroxybutanoic acid, 2-hydroxypentanoic acid, 2-hydroxyhexanoic acid, phytic acid, N-acetyl-L-cysteine acid, lipoic acid, azelaic acid, arachidonic acid, ibuprofen, naproxen, hydrocortisone, acetaminophen, resorcinol, lidocaine hydrochloride, neomycin sulfate, octoxyglycerol, octanoylglycine, caprylylglycol, 10-hydroxy-2-decanoic acid, and

mixtures thereof.

17. The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of said active agent ranges from 0.05 % to 20 % by weight, relative to the total weight of the composition.

18. The composition according to Claim 1, which further comprises at least one or more anti-inflammatory and/or anti-irritant agents.

19. The composition according to Claim 1, which further comprises at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of lower alcohols, polyols, sugars, and mixtures thereof.

20. The composition according to Claim 1, which further comprises at least one thickener.

21. The composition according to Claim 1, which is a cleansing composition for greasy skin and/or acne-prone skin.

22. A method for cleansing greasy skin and/or acne-prone skin, said method comprising:

(A) applying to the skin of a subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a composition in the presence of water;

(B) massaging said composition to form a foam; and

(C) removing said foam by rinsing with water,

wherein said composition comprises, in an aqueous medium:

(1) a surfactant system such that at least one paracrystalline phase of direct and/or cubic hexagonal type appears when the temperature increases above 30 °C and such that this paracrystalline phase remains present up to at least 45 °C; and

(2) an active agent chosen from anti-seborrhoeic active agents and antimicrobial agents.